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(71) Applicant

Licentia Patent-Verwaltungs GmbH (FR Germany),
Theodor-Stern-Kai 1, D-6000 Frankfurt am Main 70, Federal
Republic of Germany

(72) Inventors

Herbert Fleischmann,
Werner Scheuering

(74) Agent and/or Address for Service

Gee & Co., Chancery House, Chancery Lane,
London WC2A 1QU

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(56) Documents cited

GB A 2138659

GB A 2065883

GB A 2093320

GB 1346574

GB A 2083327

EP 0078755

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(58) Field of search

F4W

H5H

Selected US specifications from IPC sub-class F24C

(54) Ceramic hob

(57) A ceramic hob (1) has an optical indicator device (7) as a warning against touching the hot cooking surface and a heating element consisting of a cup-like support of insulating material for an electric radiant heating element which is embraced or surrounded by a housing cup (4). In order to provide a residual heat indication related to cooking positions for a ceramic hob with simultaneous reduction in the expense for connection and wiring for the indicator device, the indicator device (7) is constructed in the form of an integrated component of the housing cup (4).

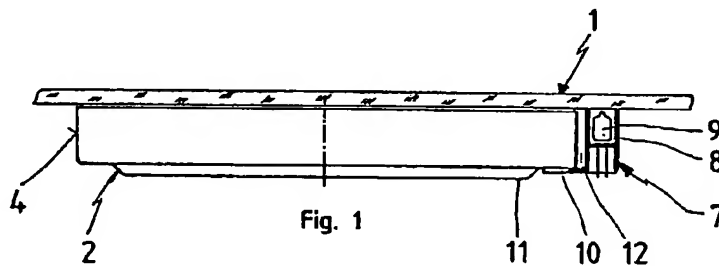
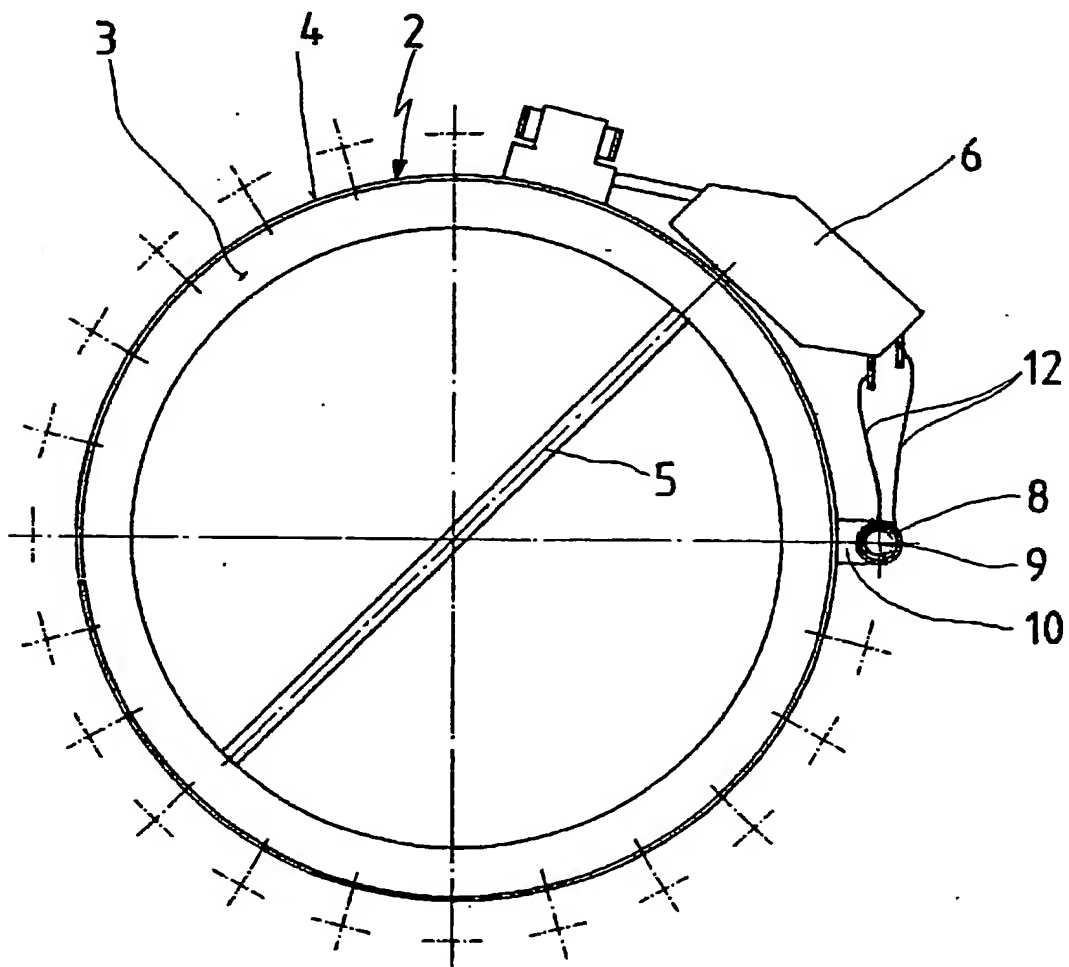
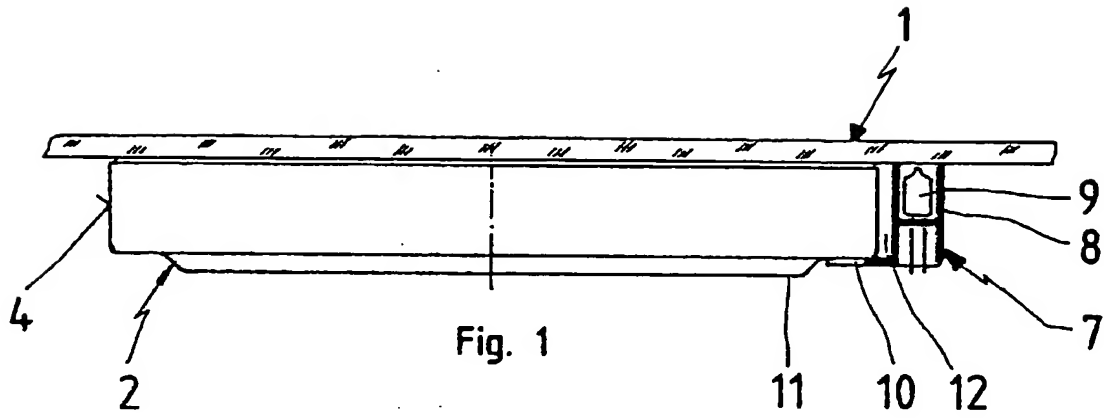


Fig. 1

GB 2 170 002 A

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SPECIFICATION

Ceramic hob

5 This invention relates to a ceramic hob having an optical indicator device as a warning against touching the hot cooking surface and having a heating element comprising of a cup-like support of insulating material for an electric radiant heating element which is embraced or surrounded by a housing cup.

A ceramic hob of this type is known from the DE-PS 29 51 410. In this hob, the indicator device for warning against touching the hot cooking surface consists of a structural unit which contains the electrical switching and control members and which is disposed centrally immediately below the ceramic hob so that it has substantially equal spacing from the individual cooking zones of the ceramic hob. The indicating lamp further belonging to the indicator device is disposed in the vicinity of the front of the ceramic hob and is thus separated from the structural unit and from the individual cooking zones. Such an arrangement of the indicating lamp requires considerable expense on installation and wiring, however.

It is the object of the invention to provide a residual heat indication related to cooking positions for a ceramic hob of the type initially referred to while at the same time reducing the expense for the connection and wiring of the indicator device.

In accordance with the invention this is achieved by forming the indicator device as an integrated component of the housing cup referred to above.

Further preferred features of the invention will become apparent from the following description taken in conjunction with the Claims.

The advantages which can be achieved by the invention are to be seen in that the heating element for the ceramic hob and the indicator device (indicating lamp) form a compact component as a result of which the assembly of the ceramic hob is facilitated and the connecting wiring between indicator device (indicating lamp) and the associated control device is reduced.

The invention is illustrated by way of example in the drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a sectional elevation of a ceramic hob with a heating element disposed beneath it, and

50 *Figure 2* is a plan view of the heating element with the hob cover removed.

Referring to the drawings, *Figure 1* designates a ceramic hob of conventional construction which is divided into a plurality of cooking zones, preferably 55 four. Disposed below the hob 1 is a heating element 2 which consists of a cup-like support 3 of insulating material for an electric radiant heating element, not illustrated, and a housing cup or housing tray 4 embracing or surrounding the support 3. Laid transversely over the cup-like support 3, which is open upwards towards the under side of the hob 1, is a temperature sensing rod 5 of an expanding rod thermostat 6 which is mounted on the outer wall of the housing cup 4. Further provided on the outer wall of the housing cup 4 is an

optical indicator device 7 as a warning against touching the hot surface of the hob, which device is thus an integrated component of the heating element 2. The optical indicator device 7 consists of a cylindrical lamp housing 8 and an exchangeable indicating lamp 9 with a plug-in base and is secured by a holding bracket 10 to the under side 11 of the housing cup forming a gap 12 spacing it from the outer wall of the housing cup 4. It is advisable to provide the indicator device 7 in the immediate vicinity of the expanding rod thermostat 6 in order to manage with the shortest possible connecting wires 12. Any other region at the circumference of the housing cup 4 would, however, be suitable for the arrangement of the indicator device 7.

CLAIMS

85 1. A ceramic hob having an optical indicator device as a warning against touching the hot cooking surface and having a heating element comprising a cup-like support of insulating material for an electric radiant heating element which is embraced or surrounded by a housing cup, wherein the indicator device is an integrated component of the housing cup.

2. A ceramic hob as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the indicator device is associated with the outer wall of the housing cup.

3. A ceramic hob as claimed in Claim 1 or 2, wherein the indicator device consists of a cylindrical lamp housing with an exchangeable indicating lamp.

100 4. A ceramic hob as claimed in any one of Claims 1-3, wherein the indicator device is provided in the vicinity of a temperature-control device for the radiant heating element.

5. A ceramic hob as claimed in any one of Claims 1-4, wherein the indicator device or the lamp housing is so disposed that a gap spaces it from the outer wall of the housing cup.

6. A ceramic hob substantially as described herein with reference to the accompanying drawings.